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"All Ye Who Pass By."

By Anne Cleveland Cheney.

[On a village street a lame wood-carver sits at work in his doorway. A little child makes a hobby-horse of the father's crutch and plays around him. Not far from them a linden tree spreads its branches over a circular bench. As the father works and the child plays, a young man walks slowly, broodingly down the street and sits unnoticed under the tree.]

The CHILD:

Why dost thou carve and carve but just one thing?

The FATHER:

They must be for the churches, thou well knowest.

CHILD:

All for the churches?

FATHER:

Seldom any else.

CHILD [bending over the work]:

How canst thou do it? 'Tis so wonderful!

How fine those little thorns around the brow!

'Tis cruel thou shouldst make them, oh, so sharp!

Nay, I'd not carve such wicked, sad, sad things.

[The man by the tree lifts his face as though listening.]

FATHER:

'Tis that we must remember how He died,
And all He suffered to redeem the world;
Men might forget.

CHILD:

Aye, 'twas so long ago—

Father, how long ago?

FATHER:

Two thousand years.

CHILD:

And men remember still?

[A bugle sounds. A soldier hurries down the street, but stops short at sight of the man by the tree, and speaks low, urgently. The child draws near, staring.]

The SOLDIER [scanning the man in amaze]:

These clothes! And thou still doubting, questioning now—

Now, when the last command hath come to arm?

The MAN [bitterly]:

I arm? And make my creed of brotherhood

The bauble for a rich man to affect—

New button for his coat to keep him snug,

When class winds blew a little angrily!

The SOLDIER [in utter scorn]:

That dream is done—the hour hath struck, I say!

The MAN:

Years, fortune I have pledged to prove it true;

Think thou of all those youth, by me led on—

The SOLDIER:

All now in battle, urging to the front!

The MAN:

Those in that other land—my brothers, too!

The SOLDIER:

At point of bayonet now! Brothers!—I pray,
Hast thou ne'er heard the one word patriot?

The MAN:

My country is the world, my countrymen all—
All of mankind! this have I trumpeted forth
To all my young disciples—eager, brave,
Hanging upon my every word—and now—
[The bugle calls again.]

The SOLDIER [beseechingly]:

Oh, friend, we are forming, and the moments fly—
Short shrift have they for all who flinch today—
Thy name is called—for God's sake, up—to arms!

[The bugle sounds again. Conscripts hurry down the street and the soldier follows. The child, no longer mindful of the quiet man, brooding alone at the other side of the tree, rushes to his father.]

CHILD:

The soldiers—they are marching—let me go!

FATHER:

Nay, there is time! the regiment sets forth
No single step till noon.

CHILD:

And we will go

Down to the market square to see them off?

FATHER:

Give me but peace to finish out my task—
Look now, 'tis nearly done!

CHILD:

Aye, so it is—

But one more cruel spike! How canst thou do it?
Oh, such a suffering face!

[The man by the tree leans nearer, listening, listening.]

FATHER:

I told thee, child,

'Tis for the churches, lest men should forget
How 'twas He died to save the world from sin.

CHILD:

Had He no soldiers brave enough to fight,
As thou didst for the King, until they were lame,
Or put in prison—aye, or shot down dead?
Our King hath millions that can kill and kill
All day and night to help him have his way.

FATHER:

Sure thou must know, my child, 'twas He who said:
Thou shalt not kill; or hast thou clean forgot
All they strive hard to teach thee in the church?

CHILD:

Then if they hang this in the church for men
To see and to remember how He said—

FATHER:

Hush! for a minute—see—one last fine touch
Here at His wounded feet—so—it is done—
The best I ever wrought!

[The man by the tree has risen; catching sight of him, the child snatches the crucifix from his father's lap and runs toward the stranger.]

CHILD:

Look, look, 'tis finished!

[The man seizes the cross, as soldiers rush toward him, headed by his friend.]

FRIEND [beseechingly]:

Thou goest?

The MAN [*raising the cross*]:

I stay!

FRIEND:

Thou art mad!

ANOTHER [*smiting him across the mouth*]:

Coward!

AN OFFICER:

Thou'lt stay!

[*The soldiers fall back; a shot is fired. The bugle sounds long and loud; many, many follow; but one stays; the child sees him lying prone, and with a piteous cry runs to him, lifting the cross from where it lies beside him.*]

CHILD:

He held it high; they saw; and they forgot!

FATHER [*taking it from him angrily*]:

'Tis for the priests to hold—not such as *he*!

CHILD [*insistently, following toward the house*]:

Why did they kill him, father? Tell me *why*!

[*But never an answer comes. The cross is laid away, and the father leads his child to where the bugles are calling, calling.*]

BROOKLINE, MASS.

How the Eighteenth of May Came to Be Observed as Peace Day.

By Lyra D. Trueblood.

The First Peace Conference, which convened at The Hague May 18, 1899, and closed its sessions July 29 of the same year, was truly, in the words of the Baroness von Suttner, "an epoch-making date in the history of the world." Writing in her diary at The Hague on that memorable day, she continues: "It is the first time, since history began to be written, that the representatives of the governments come together to find a means for 'securing a permanent, genuine peace' for the world. Whether or not this means will be found in the conference that is to be opened today has nothing to do with the magnitude of the event. In the endeavor lies the new direction!"

The opening session was held on the afternoon of May 18, 1899, in the Orange Hall of the "House in the Wood." The First Hague Conference and the succeeding conference in 1907 must not be judged by their apparent failure to prevent the colossal war in Europe. Rather should they be viewed as the beginning—the forerunner of the coming Parliament of Man—the Federation of the World. The last words spoken at the concluding session of the great assemblage in 1899, uttered by Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, were prophetic of what is yet to be: "May our conference be a beginning, not a conclusion. May our countries, by inaugurating new assemblages such as this has been, continue to serve the cause of civilization and of peace!"

Public Demonstrations Preceding Hague Conference.

In order to realize the significance of the present celebration of the day as Peace Day it is necessary to go back to the months just preceding the conference, for in the general public demonstrations to arouse and formu-

late interest in its purpose are to be found the real historic roots of the observance as it exists today.

The Czar's famous rescript, issued August 24, 1898, met with favorable replies from the various governments to which it was addressed. A circular was then sent out by Count Muravieff on January 11, 1899, indicating the Russian view of the proper subjects for discussion. The peace workers of the world at once began a widespread propaganda to create public opinion to support these proposals. There ensued great mass-meetings in England, William T. Stead's plan of an international peace crusade, and a splendid propaganda by the peace societies on the continent as well as in our own country. There was published in Boston during the months from March to August a little paper called *The Peace Crusade*. It records that peace meetings were being called for the day on which the conference was to open. In Austria, through the initiative of the Baroness von Suttner, public demonstrations were inaugurated, and the Austrian press heralded the "international peace crusade." In Germany, Frau Professor Selenka, of Munich, president of the Women's International Peace League, organized mass-meetings and prepared a memorial, to which, largely through her own individual efforts, over twenty thousand signatures were obtained, and which she herself presented at The Hague. In France, the Princess Wiszniewski and many others were exceedingly active in the same line.

In all this awakening of public opinion may be found the beginnings of the celebration of the day when the First Hague Conference opened. Baron von Staal, who presided over the sessions, remarked to Mr. Felix Moscheles, "The conference is admirably prepared for by these public demonstrations of the people's desire for peace."

International Council of Women Institutes Peace Day.

To Frau Selenka is due the credit for being the leader in the movement to make permanent the preliminary work which had been done. She organized a demonstration of women to celebrate what the conference had accomplished, and chose for this the date on which the conference opened. She desired that the idea be taken up by women all over the world, and to this end submitted in 1901 to the executive committee of the International Council of Women this proposal:

"That the International Council of Women should take up into its program of action the Annual Universal Public Demonstration of Women, on the anniversary of The Hague Conference, May 18. That for this purpose a special committee be formed and charged with the organization and execution of the next year's demonstration."

The peace and arbitration committee of the International Council of Women, of which Mrs. May Wright Sewall was chairman, submitted this proposal of Frau Selenka to the National Councils of Women in the various countries, and as a result many took the matter up at once. Holland, Italy, the United States, Austria, New Zealand, and Norway were among those that responded favorably.

First Observance in the United States.

Meanwhile Mrs. Sewall had pushed the plan vigorously in the United States, and in 1901 had succeeded in getting the day observed in many parts of the coun-